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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

SEPTEMBER 1983

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Message from Commissioner Malloy ...

IF YOU WERE HAVING A JOB INTERVIEW FOR A POSITION YOU WANTED VERY MUCH AND SOMEONE ASKED, "WHY SHOULD WE HIRE YOU?" WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

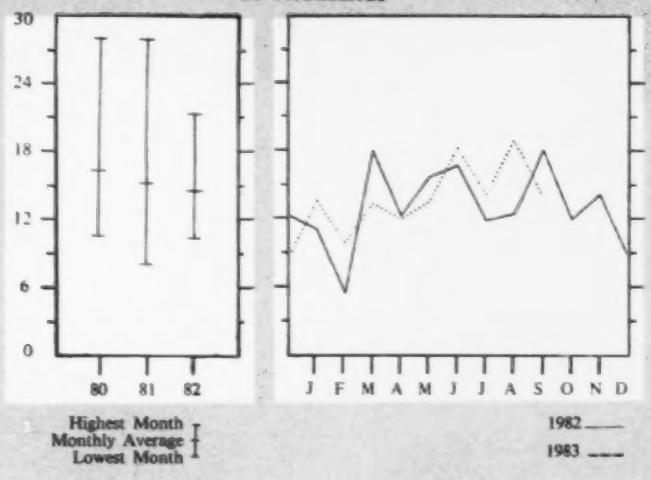
THE ANSWER TO QUESTIONS SUCH AS THIS AND MANY OTHERS ARE AVAILABLE FROM A BOOKLET CALLED JOB HUNTING IN MAINE RECENTLY PRODUCED BY THE DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS, INFORMATION ON CAREERS AND WAGES, INSTRUCTIONS ON RESUME WRITING, AND TECHNIQUES FOR A SUCCESSFUL JOB INTERVIEW ARE ALL INCLUDED IN A STRAIGHTFORWARD FORMAT.

THE BOOKLET IS INTENDED TO BE A HELPFUL GUIDE TO ANYONE LOOKING FOR A JOB, CHANGING CAREERS, OR REENTERING THE LABOR FORCE, AND ALTHOUGH IT CANNOT GUARANTEE A JOB IT CAN ASSURE THE PROPER STEPS OF ASSESSMENT AND PREPARATION ARE TAKEN IN ADVANCE. YOUNG PEOPLE ENTERING THE LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYED PEOPLE SEEKING CAREER ADVANCES, OR DISLOCATED HOMEMAKERS REENTERING THE LABOR FORCE COULD ALL BENEFIT FROM REVIEWING JOB HUNTING IN MAINE.

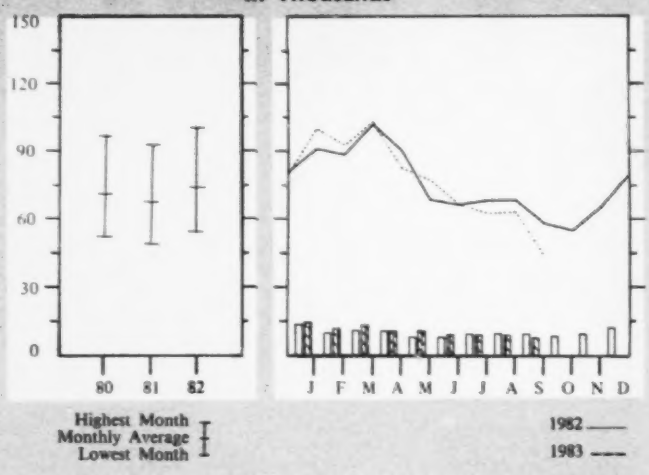
THE BOOKLET IS AVAILABLE FOR $2.75 TO COVER PRINTING AND HANDLING COSTS FROM: MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH, 20 UNION STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330.

THE QUESTION, "WHY SHOULD I HIRE YOU?" IS PROBABLY THE MOST COMMON INTERVIEW QUESTION AND MAY BE THE MOST DIFFICULT TO ANSWER. THE BEST APPROACH IS TO EXPLAIN YOU ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO EVALUATE THE OTHER CANDIDATES. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT YOUR BACKGROUND, EXPERIENCE, AND INTEREST IN THE JOB EQUIPS YOU TO HANDLE THE WORK. PLEASE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE ANSWERS TO OTHER QUESTIONS.

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands



NOTES ON THE MAINE ECONOMY - A QUARTERLY ANALYSIS ---

MAINE'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AVERAGED 8.1 PERCENT DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1983. THIS WAS A SEASONAL IMPROVEMENT OVER THE 9.3 PERCENT AVERAGE RECORDED DURING THE SECOND QUARTER. SUMMER TOURISM WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT.

THE CURRENT QUARTER'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN THE AVERAGE OF 8.3 PERCENT REGISTERED DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1982. MAINE'S CURRENT RATE OF 8.1 PERCENT WAS CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN THE NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CIVILIAN NATIONAL RATE OF 9.1 PERCENT FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1983.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT ROSE BY 13,900 BETWEEN THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS. MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT GREW BY 1,000 WHILE NONMANUFACTURING RECORDED A SEASONAL GAIN OF 12,900.

GAINS IN THE TOURIST-RELATED INDUSTRIES OF EATING AND DRINKING PLACES (+3,900) AND HOTELS AND OTHER LODGING PLACES (+4,500) ACCOUNTED FOR MUCH OF THE INCREASE IN NONMANUFACTURING BETWEEN THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS. CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT ROSE SEASONALLY BY 2,300, WHILE FOOD STORES (+1,000) AND MISCELLANEOUS RETAIL BUSINESSES (+900) ALSO ADDED WORKERS.

IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS RECORDED AN EMPLOYMENT GAIN OF 1,300 BETWEEN THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS DUE PRIMARILY TO THE ANNUAL BLUEBERRY HARVEST. LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS DECLINED BY 1,800 WORKERS BETWEEN THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS. MOST OF THIS LOSS RESULTED FROM NORMAL SEASONAL SHUTDOWNS DURING JULY.

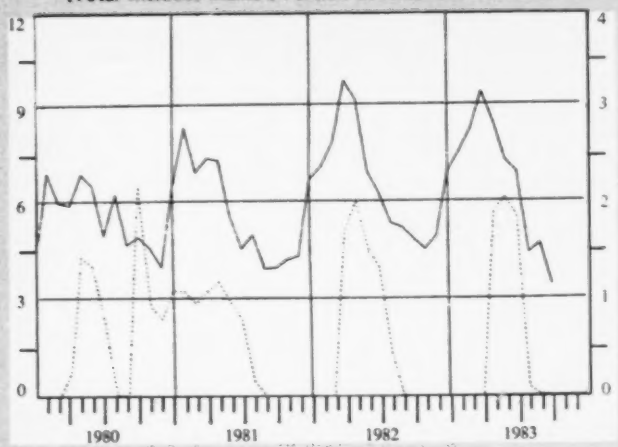
NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT INCREASED BY 3,700 OVER THE YEAR, DUE PRIMARILY TO IMPROVEMENT IN THE NONMANUFACTURING SECTOR. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE INCREASED BY 3,800 WITH THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES REGISTERED BY FOOD STORES (+1,100), EATING AND DRINKING PLACES (+900), AND MISCELLANEOUS RETAIL STORES (+800). SERVICES (+800), GOVERNMENT (+1,000), AND FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE (+500) ALSO RECORDED EMPLOYMENT GAINS.

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

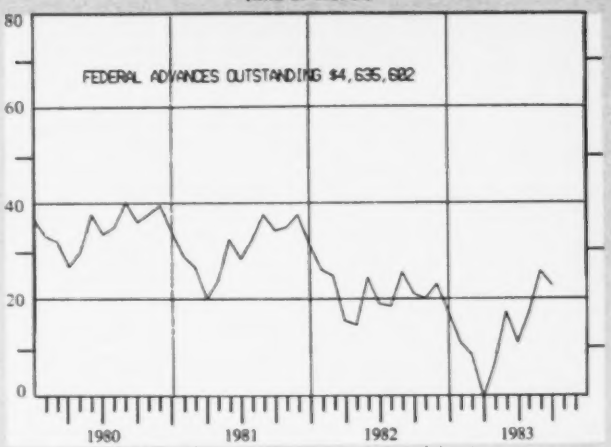
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

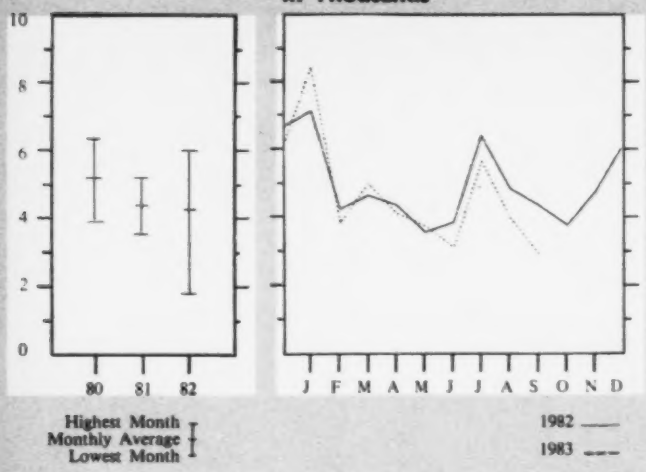
in Thousands

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	422.9	428.0	417.5	98.6	97.2	94.8	34.9	34.3	33.7
Total Manufacturing	108.8	110.2	109.8	16.9	16.5	17.0	11.7	11.6	11.1
Durable Goods	38.9	38.6	39.8	6.5	6.3	6.9	2.1	2.1	1.9
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	12.3	12.3	12.2	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Metals and Machinery	14.7	14.3	14.8	5.7	5.4	6.1	1.7	1.7	1.5
Other Durable Goods 3/	11.9	12.0	12.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Nondurable Goods	69.9	71.6	70.0	10.4	10.2	10.1	9.6	9.5	9.2
Food and Kindred Products	9.4	10.5	10.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	0.9	0.9	0.9
Textile Mill Products	7.0	7.0	6.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.6	1.5	1.6
Apparel	5.0	5.0	4.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.1	0.1	n/a
Paper and Allied Products	17.8	18.1	17.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.7	0.6
Leather and Leather Products	20.3	20.8	20.3	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.7	3.7	3.4
Footwear (except Rubber)	17.0	17.5	16.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.1	3.1	2.8
All Other	3.3	3.3	3.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	10.4	10.2	10.3	4.9	4.7	4.5	2.7	2.6	2.7
Total Nonmanufacturing	314.1	317.8	307.7	81.7	80.7	77.8	23.2	22.7	22.6
Contract Construction	18.8	18.6	18.8	4.4	4.5	4.4	1.5	1.6	1.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	18.5	16.8	18.3	6.2	5.6	6.0	1.3	1.1	1.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	93.7	96.6	89.8	26.5	26.8	25.4	8.1	8.0	8.0
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	18.4	18.6	17.9	8.9	8.9	8.4	1.7	1.7	1.6
Service and Other Nonmanufacturing	84.5	89.6	83.2	23.0	23.0	21.2	7.5	7.4	7.2
Government	80.2	77.6	79.7	12.7	11.9	12.4	3.1	2.9	3.0
Federal	17.8	18.1	17.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
State and Local 5/	62.4	59.5	62.5	11.3	10.5	11.0	2.8	2.6	2.8
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.2	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

1/Employment figures relate to full - and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38; Portland - 32, 37, 38; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37. 4/Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39. 5/Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50.

New Applications For Work

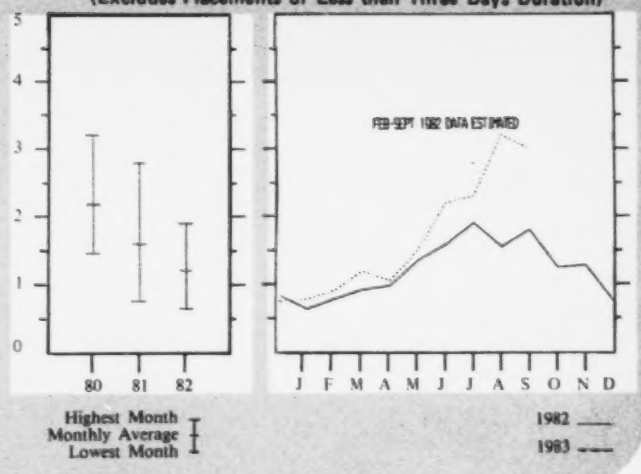
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1982	1981	1980
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	310.64	302.00	298.75	40.5	40.0	40.1	7.67	7.55	7.45	$7.22	$6.66	$6.00
Durable Goods	329.26	326.83	316.39	40.8	40.3	40.1	8.07	8.11	7.89	7.59	6.97	6.27
Lumber and Wood Products	304.63	306.27	276.05	41.0	41.0	39.1	7.43	7.47	7.06	6.87	6.52	6.08
Metals and Machinery	310.90	302.97	289.98	40.8	39.5	39.4	7.62	7.67	7.36	7.15	6.61	5.87
Other Durable Goods	381.92	380.70	386.23	40.5	40.5	41.8	9.43	9.40	9.24	8.84	7.98	7.09
Nondurable Goods	299.83	289.35	288.32	40.3	39.8	40.1	7.44	7.27	7.19	7.00	6.48	5.85
Food and Kindred Products	210.60	213.90	222.87	36.0	37.2	39.1	5.85	5.75	5.70	5.84	5.50	5.01
Textile Mill Products	259.37	252.62	206.05	42.8	42.6	37.6	6.06	5.93	5.48	5.49	5.17	4.79
Apparel	207.31	204.60	201.66	37.9	37.2	36.4	5.47	5.50	5.54	5.23	4.97	4.49
Paper and Allied Products	512.11	491.48	496.80	45.4	44.0	46.3	11.28	11.17	10.73	10.10	9.27	8.31
Leather and Leather Products	213.01	210.92	209.21	37.7	37.8	37.9	5.65	5.58	5.52	5.46	5.10	4.72
Other Nondurable Goods	264.26	255.19	243.59	40.1	39.2	38.3	6.59	6.51	6.36	6.23	5.75	5.23
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	298.37	292.19	280.74	38.8	37.8	38.3	7.69	7.73	7.33	7.19	6.49	5.85
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	244.67	240.73	229.36	39.4	39.4	38.1	6.21	6.11	6.02	5.96	5.57	5.08

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month	Last Month **	Year Ago
Labor Force *	230.0	235.5	219.2
Unemployed	19.4	19.7	19.2
(Percent)	8.4	8.4	8.8
Resident Employed	210.5	215.8	200.0

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items (CPI-U)	301.8	300.3	293.3	292.4

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.5
Percent Change from Last December	+3.2
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.9

*Preliminary estimates
**Amended data

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	556.0	564.6	536.8	516.8	523.1	497.8	39.2	41.5	39.0	7.1	7.4	7.3
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	44,700	45,400	41,900	41,800	42,300	39,100	2,900	3,100	2,800	6.5	6.8	6.7
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	32,500	33,700	32,600	30,100	30,900	30,000	2,400	2,800	2,600	7.4	8.3	8.0
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	39,900	39,800	38,100	36,800	36,600	34,900	3,100	3,200	3,200	7.8	8.0	8.4
Portland SMSA	99,300	101,000	94,100	93,900	94,900	88,700	5,400	6,100	5,400	5.4	6.0	5.7
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	29,540	29,980	28,930	27,670	28,020	26,640	1,870	1,960	2,290	6.3	6.5	7.9
Bath-Brunswick	24,280	25,610	24,610	23,000	24,360	23,400	1,280	1,250	1,210	5.3	4.9	4.9
Belfast	11,190	12,260	10,700	10,080	10,880	9,680	1,110	1,380	1,020	9.9	11.3	9.5
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	9,420	10,210	8,630	8,930	9,700	8,230	490	510	400	5.2	5.0	4.6
Calais-Eastport	15,030	19,290	16,370	13,550	17,650	14,600	1,480	1,640	1,770	9.8	8.5	10.8
Caribou-Presque Isle	28,310	21,410	26,830	25,000	18,010	23,970	3,310	3,400	2,860	11.7	15.9	10.7
Central Penobscot	3,690	3,760	3,460	3,480	3,550	3,230	210	210	230	5.7	5.6	6.6
Dover-Foxcroft	6,980	7,110	6,810	6,500	6,570	6,260	480	540	550	6.9	7.6	8.1
Ellsworth	23,080	26,410	22,120	21,940	25,210	21,010	1,140	1,200	1,110	4.9	4.5	5.0
Farmington	13,090	13,520	13,000	12,030	12,560	12,120	1,060	960	880	8.1	7.1	6.8
Fort Kent-Allagash	8,660	5,350	7,320	8,130	4,920	6,770	530	430	550	6.1	8.0	7.5
Greenville	1,520	1,600	1,480	1,450	1,530	1,400	70	70	80	4.6	4.4	5.4
Houlton	7,670	5,390	6,700	6,980	4,630	6,100	690	760	610	9.0	14.1	9.1
Lincoln-Howland	5,620	5,820	5,420	5,230	5,380	4,970	390	440	450	6.9	7.6	8.3
Livermore Falls	6,350	6,020	6,200	5,740	5,410	5,600	610	610	600	9.6	10.1	9.7
Madawaska-Van Buren	6,460	4,650	5,780	5,880	4,160	5,180	580	490	600	9.0	10.5	10.4
Mechanic Falls	2,740	3,450	3,060	2,460	3,140	2,710	280	310	350	10.2	9.0	11.4
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,230	5,420	5,180	4,900	5,060	4,930	330	360	250	6.3	6.6	4.8
Patten-Island Falls	4,180	2,540	3,740	3,920	2,320	3,400	260	220	340	6.2	8.7	9.1
Rockland	18,030	18,840	18,110	16,730	17,510	16,920	1,300	1,330	1,190	7.2	7.1	6.6
Rumford	19,850	20,650	20,410	18,170	18,890	18,780	1,680	1,760	1,630	8.5	8.5	8.0
Sebago Lake Region	11,310	13,210	11,230	10,560	12,410	10,500	750	800	730	6.6	6.1	6.5
Skowhegan	22,350	23,010	21,570	20,040	20,700	19,470	2,310	2,310	2,100	10.3	10.0	9.7
Kittery-York	24,630	27,320	22,610	23,980	26,610	21,990	650	710	620	2.6	2.6	2.7
Southwest Penobscot	8,390	8,470	8,050	7,540	7,590	7,140	850	880	910	10.1	10.4	11.3
Waterville	21,980	23,430	21,830	20,290	21,620	20,150	1,690	1,810	1,680	7.7	7.7	7.7
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	N/A	1,622.6	1,612.8	N/A	1,536.1	1,507.3	N/A	86.5	105.5	N/A	5.3	6.5
Massachusetts	3,023.1	3,064.0	3,052.0	2,810.1	2,881.0	2,827.1	213.0	183.0	224.9	7.0	6.0	7.4
New Hampshire	N/A	510.1	492.8	N/A	489.0	461.0	N/A	21.1	31.8	N/A	4.1	6.5
Rhode Island	481.8	483.0	483.4	449.7	445.5	437.4	32.1	37.5	46.0	6.7	7.8	9.5
Vermont	N/A	268.5	266.4	N/A	253.2	250.7	N/A	15.3	15.8	N/A	5.7	5.9
NEW ENGLAND STATES	N/A	5,948.2	5,907.4	N/A	5,604.8	5,483.5	N/A	343.4	424.0	N/A	5.8	7.2
UNITED STATES 3/	112,197	113,578	110,546	102,366	103,167	99,851	9,830	10,411	10,695	8.8	9.2	9.7

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND SMSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	1,855	9,942	11,069	1,099	1,415	1,453	564	756	975
Insured Unemployment Rate *	2.0	2.4	2.8	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.3	3.0

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Maine Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

In Thousands

ITEM	Number of Workers 1983 3rd Quarter	Previous Quarter	Year Ago	Net Change to 3rd Quarter 1982 from Previous Quarter	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment [1]	423.0	409.1	419.3	+13.9	+3.7
Total Manufacturing	105.9	104.9	107.4	+ 1.0	-1.5
Durable Goods	38.4	37.3	39.4	+ 1.1	-1.0
Lumber and Wood Products	12.1	10.8	12.0	+ 1.3	-0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.4	3.5	3.8	- 0.1	-0.4
Machinery, except Electrical	3.6	3.6	3.7	0.0	-0.1
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	7.3	7.1	7.3	+ 0.2	0.0
Transportation Equipment	9.5	9.9	10.1	- 0.4	-0.6
Other Durable Goods [2]	2.5	2.3	2.6	+ 0.2	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	67.5	67.6	68.0	- 0.1	-0.5
Food and Kindred Products	9.4	8.2	10.5	+ 1.2	-1.1
Textile Mill Products	6.4	6.7	6.5	- 0.3	-0.1
Apparel	4.9	5.0	4.6	- 0.1	+0.3
Paper and Allied Products	17.9	17.3	17.9	+ 0.6	0.0
Printing and Publishing	3.9	3.8	3.9	+ 0.1	0.0
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Products	4.4	4.3	4.4	+ 0.1	0.0
Leather and Leather Products	18.6	20.4	18.4	- 1.8	+0.2
Other Nondurable Goods [3]	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Total Nonmanufacturing	317.1	304.2	311.9	+12.9	+5.2
Construction	18.7	16.4	18.9	+ 2.3	-0.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	18.0	17.7	18.8	+ 0.3	-0.8
Wholesale and Retail Trade	95.5	88.2	91.7	+ 7.3	+3.8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	18.5	18.2	18.0	+ 0.3	+0.5
Services and Other Nonmanufacturing	87.7	80.9	86.9	+ 6.8	+0.8
Government [4]	78.6	82.8	77.6	- 4.2	+1.0

1 Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2 Incudes furniture and fixtures; stone, clay, glass, concrete products, and professional and scientific instruments. 3 Includes chemicals, petroleum refining, and miscellaneous manufacturing. 4 Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

The Employment Security programs are affiliated with U.S. Employment and Training Administration. Published under Appropriation No. 03444.2

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Division of Economic Analysis and Research

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SEPTEMBER 1983

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